



The Illinois Maternal and Infant Early Childhood Home Visiting Grant (MIECHV) 2013 Fact Sheet

MIECHV Year 2 Data

Reporting Period: October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2013

The data below is collected from a total of 46 Home visitors and 13 Doulas across 25 programs in 10 high risk communities in Illinois.

In Federal Fiscal Year 2013 (October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2013), Illinois MIECHV:

- Provided 13,050 home visits to 944 children birth to 5 years of age.
- Found the average age of primary guardians was between 22-24 years old but if a participant was pregnant she was more likely to be younger than the average.
- Had 50% of cases come into the program prenatally

The Year 2 MIECHV data shows that we are serving families that not only need home visiting services the most but have been proven to have the best outcomes from home visiting services. This is evidenced by the following demographics:

- *MIECHV is serving low income families* - 99% of families served by MIECHV are at 100% or less of the poverty line.
- *MIECHV is serving teen mothers and enrolling them prenatally* - 50% of mothers enrolled are enrolled prenatally and of those that are enrolled prenatally they are more likely to be a teenager.
- *MIECHV is serving families with parenting deficiencies* - the majority of families scored below the normal range on measures of parental support for child's learning and development, knowledge of child's development and child's developmental progress, parent-child relationship and parental stress.
- *MIECHV is serving parents with low educational achievement and high rates of unemployment* - 73% of MIECHV parents have a high school diploma or less and 72% are unemployed.

Even with the above risk factors in these families, the data is telling us that while they are in MIECHV home visiting services, there are favorable outcomes in the following areas:

- Child Abuse and Neglect: only 4% of MIECHV families had substantiated reports of child abuse or neglect.
- Child injuries requiring medical attention: only 3% of children obtain an injury that requires medical treatment
- Emergency room visits: only 12% of children and 8% of mothers visited the emergency while receiving home visiting services.
- Prenatal use of tobacco, alcohol, or drugs: 53% of mothers who enroll prenatally and identified as using tobacco, alcohol, or drugs decreased their use by 36 weeks pregnant.



Testimonials from Illinois Home Visiting Families

A family enrolled in the program with a two-year-old child that was exhibiting severe speech delays and behavior problems. Although mom was taking her child to a family practitioner when she enrolled, she expressed to her home visitor, "I'm worried because she doesn't talk, and the doctor keeps telling me she'll be okay." The mother wanted to take the child to a pediatrician, which her home visitor helped identify and facilitate. The child was also referred to the Early Intervention program for further assessment. Since then, the child been receiving speech therapy and is making progress. She was eventually diagnosed with severe developmental delays and has been connected to specialists at the University of Illinois at Chicago for ongoing evaluation and treatment. *(Family Focus/ Nuestra Familia, Cicero)*

Our home visitor started working with a mother in December 2012. She was 22, expecting her first child, and had just moved home with her parents from out of state. She did not have a job or an income source, and was not linked to any community resources. When we first started working together, we focused on getting her basic needs covered. This included enrolling in the WIC program, getting her a medical card, finding a doctor for prenatal care, and lining up a pediatrician for after the baby is born. Once those basic needs were met, we started to focus on her other needs. This mom does have her GED, and would like to go back to school, but employment and income was a pressing need for her as well. Mom completed her taxes, filled out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), and has things in order to start school in the fall. Mom delivered her baby boy in April. Initially, he struggled with jaundice and acid reflux, but Mom has done an excellent job of following his treatment and building a wonderful relationship with his doctor. Since the baby was born, she applied for TANF and LINK benefits, and is now waiting to hear back from DHS regarding her applications. For the time being, she has decided to focus on job searching and saving money for her own place. As the fall semester gets closer, she will make a final decision about school. She has already placed her name on a waiting list for income-based housing in our community. *(Rockford Public Schools, Rockford)*

"Being in this program really helped build me up on teaching my child as she develops and giving her challenges to help see what level my child is learning at. Without joining and getting the information on how to interact with my child, and gaining a stronger bond with these simple acts of play, I wouldn't know where I'd be. I enjoy being able to ask questions, and being asked questions about my child. It gives me comfort to know they want to help me keep track on how my child is developing, to give them the learning opportunity as they grow in the community." *(Lindsey (age 20) and Lacey (17 months), Elgin, School District U-46, Elgin)*